



Mail:  
Box 2643  
Station M,  
Calgary, Alberta T2P 3C1 Cda

# Inside this issue:

Featured Wood	2
Expo Milano 2015	4
Medicine Man Charlie	6
Dawson City Bakery	7
MasterCraft Broom Stocks	9
"Plato John" A. Likely	10
End of Era, Don Jail	12

## Aug. 2013-July 2015 Executive

### CAWMC OFFICERS

**President,  
Secretary-Treasurer,  
Membership Chairman:**  
**Al Munro**  
E-mail:  
wood5cents@shaw.ca  
Ph: (403) 273-6133

**Vice-President:**  
**France Waychison**

**Past-President,  
Chairman of Board of  
Governors:**  
**Norm Belsten**

### Elected Members of Board of Governors:

**Richard Blaylock,  
Russell Brown,  
Wayne Gillcash,  
Dave Gillespie,  
Ross Kingdon,  
James Williston**

## President's Message

Hope you all had a wonderful Victoria Weekend!

I will be working on the membership cards and receipts shortly and will be distributing them in the usual manner. If you have queries re your membership status or another matter, you can contact me by mail, at Al Munro, Box 2643 Station M, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2P 3C1, by phone at 403-273-6133 or by e-mail at wood5cents@shaw.ca.



I would like to remind you that It is not too soon to start making reservations for the annual R.C.N.A. convention this July in Halifax (Nova Scotia). The hotel registration, convention registration, and programme of events are at this link <https://rcna.awp-hosting.com/2015/register.php>.

I encourage you to attend this outstanding show and to plan to attend our annual C.A.W.M.C. breakfast meeting on Saturday, July 25. We are holding the breakfast cost to \$20 to encourage attendance. This event will be a great opportunity to meet fellow collectors and do some friendly trading. If you plan on issuing a "wood" for this convention please order them shortly to give the manufacturer sufficient time to produce your order for you.

Our annual meeting is an opportunity to honour members who have put forth extraordinary effort to support our hobby. If you would like to nominate someone as a potential recipient of an award please advise me at one of the contact points shown above.

2015 is an election year for the Association, **Norm Belsten** has agreed to serve as Nominations Chairman. A nomination form is inside this TT issue and was also emailed with the last TT issue. Please mail your nominations to Norm at the address shown on the form or you can send an electronic nomination to Norm at [nbelsten@sympatico.ca](mailto:nbelsten@sympatico.ca). If you send an e-mail from your e-mail address that we use to send your bulletin, we do not require a form. Please remember to get the approval of anyone you nominate. Note: although we hope as many members as possible can attend our annual meeting, it is not mandatory for a person nominated to be present.

In closing, I would like to remind you again that *Timber Talk* is the life line of our hobby so please take a few minutes and write a short article and send it to our Editor (**Judy Blackman**). Remember, your editor will send you a unique *Timber Talk* numbered wood for submitting your article provided you give her your mailing address. This issue Judy is pleased to thank **Ross Kingdon, Duff Malkin, David (Rusty) Phillips, and Norm Belsten** for submitting articles! These 4 have been sent a special signed wood. If you send several articles, you may receive additional "other" woods from Judy too!

Good Luck in your collecting activities! *Al Munro*



## Past Presidents:

2003–2005:  
Norm Belsten  
2001–2003:  
Earl Salterio\*  
1995–2001:  
Lou Vesh  
1991–1995:  
Pat White\*  
1985–1991:  
Norm Belsten  
1983–1985:  
Neil Probert  
1981–1983:  
Stanley Clute  
1979–1981:  
Don Robb  
1977–1979:  
Victor Hall\*  
1975–1977:  
Garry Braunwarth

(\*Deceased)

The C.A.W.M.C. was founded on January 1st, 1975, by Garry Braunwarth (C-1) (pictured below) and Victor B. Hall (C-2) in Calgary, Alberta. In addition to the founders, these are the 43 other original charter members.

C- 3 George Parfet  
C- 4 Leslie D. Copan  
C- 5 Norm Williams  
C- 6 Harold Butner  
C- 7 Frank J. DeGilio  
C- 8 N. R. Mack  
C- 9 Clarence C. Kramer  
C-10 Steve Penzes  
C-11 Alice Penzes  
C-12 Thomas W. King  
C-13 Tom Hudson  
C-14 Earl O'Cathey  
C-15 John K. Curtis  
C-16 Frank Harding  
C-17 Norman E. Wells  
C-18 John M. Plasterer  
C-19 Mary K. Plasterer  
C-20 Donna Streeter  
C-21 Gelvin Leeper  
C-22 Laura Foust  
C-23 Bruce Watt  
C-24 Rusty Bailey  
C-25 Bernice B. Fiedler  
C-26 Donald J. Thibodeau  
C-27 Donald J. Smith  
C-28 C. O. T. Y. Club  
C-29 James L. Betton, Jr.  
C-30 J. Douglas Ferguson  
C-31 Carolyn Hansen  
C-32 Tenino Wooden Money Society  
C-33 Reginald R. Smith  
C-34 Basil Latham  
C-35 Ricky Morse  
C-36 Don Stewart  
C-37 Mrs. M. Miners  
C-38 G. B. Davis  
C-39 Stanley M. Carling  
C-40 Gilvin A. (Corky) Ayers  
C-41 Don Cole  
C-42 Ernest Ruch  
C-43 Gerald A. Hathaway  
C-44 Robert S. Ross  
C-45 Norman R. Belsten

Garry Braunwarth &gt;&gt;&gt;



## Jim's Coin Shop

Free Wood of the Month of June 2015 reported by Ross Kingdon

Jim's Coin Shop is our free wood for the month of June 2015. It is a 38mm round wood listed as 3400-012 in our catalogue, from Newcastle, New Brunswick and issued in 1981. Jim Quinn apparently issued 1,000 of these woods, ALL numbered. I've often wondered if Jim kept #1 and #1000 for himself.

Jim also has another wood listed in our catalogue #3400-016. It is a Christmas issue 38mm, with 50 issued in 1981. I do not have this wood in my collection but was able to find a picture of it in a catalogue put out by the late Norm Wells. I have also found a couple of old advertising pages that Jim put out.

Late in 1980 Jim Quinn got interested in trade dollars and at that time probably had one of the largest stock of them. He kept up-to-date with all of the new issues, mostly getting them by telephone. Jim was the first to institute a program of a yearly subscription for all currency issues, or for all plated issues, silver issues or by topic or province. In 1983, he had some 135 collectors subscribing to his service.

In 1982, his brother Frank Quinn also started dealing, as a competitor, in trade dollars. Other coin dealers, at that time, such as Aubrey Leslie of Aurora (Ontario) were also carrying small stocks in trade dollars as collecting these trade dollars was a very popular hobby in the 1980's. Ray Desjardins of Ottawa later got into the trade dollar business too.



COLLECT

# TRADE DOLLARS

CANADA & U.S.A.

These Trade Dollars are issued by various municipalities, organizations, and some private enterprises.

The majority are issued by Canadian organizations like the Chamber of Commerce, Lions & Rotary Clubs, Legion, etc.

They are redeemable in the municipality during the year of issue until the expiry date (usually 3-6 months) through local participating merchants.

The wide variety of subjects depicted on the Dollars has made them a very interesting item for the collectors:

Trains	Boats	Famous Personalities	Airplanes
Sports	Buildings	Places of Interest	
	Sports	Politics	
		Animals	
		History	

The number of issues has been increasing steadily over the past 3 or 4 years and, so far, some 1984 issues are being produced for the first time.

Most issues (average mintage 10,000) are produced in nickel, with some in other metals: copper, pure silver, gold-plated, brass, etc.


A price list (with descriptions) is available for a modest fee of \$1.00 to cover the cost of postage.

**DON'T DELAY - JOIN THIS FAST-GROWING and POPULAR HOBBY NOW!!!!!!**

While Prices Are Low and Issues Are Available

## JIM'S COIN SHOP

BOX 291  
NEWCASTLE, N.B., CANADA E1V 3M4  
Tel: (506) 622-1914




3400 - 16 38mm  
NEWCASTLE  
Jim's Coin Shop  
Value -  
Date - 1982  
No. Issued - 50  
Color - Multi  
Est. Trends -









One new wood was discovered issued for the Seymour generating stations 100 years — While I have tried to keep the listing in alphabetical order, due to there being no number left in that location I have moved it to the nearest available one.

5173-001	CAMPBELLFORD, ON	SEYMOUR GENERATING STATION	2009	BL	BL/R	4	RD	38
----------	------------------	----------------------------	------	----	------	---	----	----



The Seymour Generating Station is part of the Central Hydro Plant Group, Ontario Power Generation—drainage basis is Lake Ontario, river is the Trent, and the nearest population

centre is Campbellford (6 km / 4 miles north). This station came into service on December 4, 1909, and was acquired by Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario in 1916 from the Electric Power Company. Asset was transferred to Ontario Power Generation on April 1, 1999 (number of units 5).



On Saturday, September 12, 2009, Ontario Power Generation Chief Executive Officer **Tom Mitchell**, along with Executive Vice-President Hydro **John Murphy**, joined OPG staff and members of the community to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Seymour Generating Station located in Campbellford. The event was held at the OPG Service Centre at 8 Trent Drive, Campbellford from 10 a.m. To 3 p.m., and guests received a souvenir wooden commemorative token. There was a photo opportunity, **Mitchell** and **Murphy** took part in a special plaque unveiling ceremony at 1 p.m., following by a commemorative cake cutting shortly after. “It’s a good news story because we have clean, renewable hydroelectric power and here it is 100 years later still humming along,” OPG public affairs office **Jeff Fournier** said.

[Editor’s Message: thank you to all who put woods, and the book in my ONA Convention Registration Kit for **Peter Becker** to pass on to me after the convention. Much appreciated!]

### 1 Unit— EXPO MILANO 2015

Italy has issued a Bi-Metallic Wood center in Nordic Brass ring, weight 9g, 35mm round, medal alignment ↑↑ commemorative issue for Expo Milano 2015.



Obverse: In the centre (in WOOD), the Expo 2015 logo and the Tree of Life with leaves of the 5 continent trees. Around (Nordic brass), the inscription “FEEDING THE PLENT / EXPO / 2015 / MILANO / ENERGEY FOR LIFE.” Engraver: Luc Luycx, Laura Cretara.

Reverse: In the centre (WOOD), the “Number 1” icon is repeated five times, to represent the continents. Lettering: “EXPO MILANO 2015 / 1 2015 / U.F.W.C.—UNITY IN DIVERSITY.” They are encapsulated on a commemorative cardboard.



## 2015 Mexico to Margate by Zoe Murphy



History of **CAWMC**  
**Timber Talk**  
 Newsletter  
 Editors

Jan. 1975 – Sept. 1979  
**Garry Braunwarth**

Oct. 1979 – July 1981  
**Stan Cluthe**

Aug. 1981 – July 1983  
**Albert Kasman**

Aug. 1983 – Sept. 1992  
**Garry Braunwarth**

Oct. 1992 – Dec. 1994  
**Lou Vesh**

Jan. 1995 – Aug. 2008  
**Ross Kingdon**  
 (14 years!!!)



Above is a Dan Gosling photo  
 of Ross Kingdon

Sept. 2008 – Dec. 2009  
**Tony Hine**

Jan. 2010 – Aug. 2010  
**Norm Belsten**

Sept. 2010 – Current  
**Judy Blackman, F.O.N.A.**



Inspired by **Frida Kahlo** and **Diego Rivera**, Mexico's most celebrated artists and lovers. Paintbrush marks and traditional Mexican dress, from an astonishing love affair that was wrapped up in a little blue house in Mexico City.

A limited edition for 2015, these wooden tokens are an edition of 100 of each, and housed in tissue paper within a hand printed presentation box. These hearts are part of an on going annual edition with a design launched each February (new design each year).

The design for 2015 was prompted from a visit to the house of the great painters in Mexico DF, and part of the *Mexico to Margate* project from our studio.

One supplied, with a choice between Mexican folk florals of Frida's traditional dress, or paintbrush marks from Diego's famous political murals.



## 2015 Cache In / Trash Out Events Wood



This April 2015 Nova Scotia 1-1/2 inch trackable round wood (back is blank) was designed by I.B. Geocaching Supplies. Literally thousands of these were made.

It is **ONLY** sold at Nova Scotia CITO events (between \$5-8 EACH), and it not activated until you buy it.

The front shows the rampant lion from Nova Scotia flag holding the CITO logo. The design is etched right into the wood on the front (obverse).



They also designed this second trackable wood issued in November 2014 at CITO events.

The front shows the outline of Cape Breton island encircled by a Celtic knot with the words "Céad Míle Fáilte", which is Gaelic (Scottish and Irish) for "A Hundred Thousand Welcomes."

The reverse is also blank. Again, numerous were made.

This one is also 1-1/2 inches diameter.

## Token Talk: Medicine Man Charlie's Wooden Nickel by Duff Malkin

[reprinted with permission from the The Shoreline newsletter, Volume 32, Issue 3, April 2015, North Shore Numismatic Society]

What can give me a good buzz is the discovery of something I did not know about and which is somewhat unusual and I did not expect to see. This following wooden nickel is one such item. It is quite thick for a wooden nickel (7mm or about 1/4 of an inch, which may have been relevant in Canada's pre-metric days).

Ranier Provisions is in Gastown at 2 West Cordova. It is a licensed restaurant. I am not sure whether it is the "Rainier of Gastown" referred to on the token, but it might be and it might be where the issuing "Ranier" is. It may also refer to the Ranier Hotel at 309 Carrall Street. The former may be part of the latter for the streets do meet in Gastown.

In 1973 the Evening Independent newspaper (May 15th), of St. Petersburg, Florida, had an article about Gastown which stated:

"Then there's Casanova, an Italian restaurant, the Barkerville Inn specializing in Old World Chinese cuisine, le coq au vin, la crepe bretonne or la creperie for food in the French flavor, or Medicine Man Charlie's where you can try braised short ribs or beef on noodles while reliving the wild and woolly frontier days of old Vancouver."

The Ubyyssey of October 27th, 1972 also has a side reference to the place stating that:

"Block-long line-ups in front of places like the Body Shop, Medicine Man Charlie's, Sneaky Pete's, and the Town Pump are becoming common occurrences Friday and Saturday nights."

This operation was also on Carroll Street. It was noted as a place where local bands played or were in attendance, like The Collectors, who later became Chilliwack:

"I first heard Al play at Medicine Man Charlie's on Carroll St. in the mid '70's with Al Wold. The drumming was ferocious and sensitive at the same time.

From my seat I could not see the drummer's face because of the vertical ride symbol (the edge pointing to the ceiling). When he stood up I saw he had no hair! My first audio and visual impression of Al Wiertz...

I enjoyed and learned from his playing over the years especially seeing him with Bob Murphy, Dale Jacobs and Joni Taylor in the Carmen Cadillac when Miles Davis 'opened' for them at the QE."

A photo of the band playing apparently there can be found at <http://www.vancouverjazz.com/forums/showthread.php?t=363>.

I cannot remember the place and I have no idea if there was such as a cigar store Indian related to it.

Gastown, as a name for the downtown region, may have been used for decades but it was only in the very late 1960's and 1970's when it came to be what it is. Whether either institution had a cigar store Indian in front of it, I know not, but it might have been supposed to related to BC's western history or it may be that the Indian, as in the case of many wooden nickels, was a rather stock character.



Editor's Note: This wood is listed in the CAWMC catalogue as #9800-038, Vancouver, B.C., Rainier of Gastown, Red/Red, rarity 4, round 45mm. No year of issue nor quantity is given.

## Dawson City Bakery Wood

submitted by David Phillips

A wood that has intrigued me immensely is the **Dawson City Bakery** wood. Why? Because so little was known about it! All previous inquiries had drawn a blank as to the exact “**Where, When, Why & Wherefores**” of this wood. It reminded me of the mythical “Unicorn”, e.g.; as someone had seen one once, but no one has seen one since!!

Luckily, at the “once” sighting, a photocopy of the wood was taken, so we do know that this item did / does exist...

Because of the lack of information about this wood, in mid-June of 2014, I embarked on a Quest to find out, if possible, as much as was obtainable about this wood!

Mega e-mails were sent, letters written and phone calls made, primarily to Yukon possible sources. Tidbits of information did come in (my Thanks to **Wendy Solkolon & Shannon Olson**, Yukon Gov't. Archives Dept.—these ladies went the extra mile for me! Special Thanks to **Kathy Gates**, long time Yukon resident, Yukon historian and researcher— this lady provided great ideas, suggestion, good contact information and encouragement!!).

From all of the above, I was able to find an address of a brother of the “thought to be” owner, and he graciously passed along my questions re the wood to his sister (Thanks **Steve**).

Finally, in February of 2015, I was able to be in touch with **Susan Manchee**, the original owner / operator of the Dawson City Bakery (aka—The Motherlode Bakery)!! Oh happy day for me!!

**Susan** was very kind and was willing to tell me the story of the Bakery and this wood, as best as she could recall, given the time that has gone by, as follows:

**Where & When:** Summers of 1970 & 1980, in the heart of the Business District of Dawson City, Yukon (1979 — in an old building — The Lucky Inn, heavily damaged by a Yukon River flood in the Spring of 1979. 1980, due to too extensive and expensive repairs needed to the building, in a 6 by 10 metre tent!). **Susan** had a staff of 4 — she, her sister, **Jane**, and 2 friends — **Beth Malloy & Sheila Langston** (these two gals also did improve theatre at lunchtime for the entertainment of customers. They were known as the “Nakai Players”, and their show was called “The Primal Knead”).

**Why & How:** the “free cookie” woods were put in the packed lunches for the tourists on the Westours buses coming from Whitehorse to Dawson City. The tourists loved them! Large Numbers of the tourists visited the Bakery for their “free cookie” (bite sized), and were enticed to purchase other bakery products, including a “pretty large” chocolate chip cookie (@\$3.00)!

**Wherefores:** How many woods produced and from where? “Quite a few thousand, I believe, and were obtained through a novelty place in Vancouver.”

Were there any varieties within the woods? “No, there wasn’t a re-order, and thus only one batch, all the same.”

What number of woods were redeemed? “A lot, I’d say, but I suspect there are still quite a few gathering dust in peoples’ trinket drawers.”

My sincere Thanks to **Susan Manchee** for her cooperation and willingness to pass along her recollections, and, in so doing, has helped clear up the “mystery” around the Dawson City Bakery wood... Very, very much appreciated!!!







## Nomination Form for July 2015 to July 2017 Officers and Governors

Please ensure that if you are nominating somebody, that you have confirmed his / her willingness to stand BEFORE submitting your nomination form. Nomination forms should be sent to **Norm Belsten** so as to reach him BEFORE **June 12th, 2015**. If more than one person nominated for a position, we will then send out Election Ballot Forms in our July 2015 Timber Talk (or by separate e-mail). At our Annual Meeting during the RCNA Convention (Sat., July 25, 2015) in Halifax, Nova Scotia, we will call for a motion to confirm the Officers and Governors (it is not mandatory for nominated parties to be in attendance). All executive positions are up for re-election as indicated below:

### MAKE YOUR NOMINATION(S) BELOW:

I would like to nominate the following CAWMC current members as indicated beside the position below [PLEASE PRINT THE PERSON(S) FULL NAMES]:

For President: \_\_\_\_\_

For Vice-President: \_\_\_\_\_

For Secretary-Treasurer / Membership Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_

For Board of Governors:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_

The above person(s) were nominated by: (print YOUR name) \_\_\_\_\_

Date: (MM/DD/YYYY) \_\_\_\_\_ SIGN YOUR NAME HERE: \_\_\_\_\_

Scan and e-mail to [nbelsten@sympatico.ca](mailto:nbelsten@sympatico.ca) or send by Canada Post mail service to Mr. **Norm Belsten**, 86 Hamilton Drive, Newmarket, Ontario, L3Y 3E8, Canada. MUST reach NORM by **June 12th, 2015**. ONLY those nomination forms SIGNED by the nominator, will be accepted.





## ***Manufacturer of Municipal Broom Stocks***

submitted by **Norm E. Wells**

Near the end of April 2015, CAWMC answered an inquiry from Darrell E. Luedtke (Franklin, WI, USA) (Editor of Bunyan's Chips for the IOWMC and 7-term Past-President) as to the origin of broom stocks. He thanked us for our detailed description and said he learned a lot. Since we likely have some new members since the Norm days, we thought we would share this for the benefit of all members:

Norm. E. Wells wrote about the Broom Stock (stubbies) woods, that 1979 "is the 25th anniversary of these very distinctive and Truly Canadian Woods and they are still being produced tod-day, the latest issue for Kitchener's 125th anniversary, and is shown on page 71. I have listed these woods, as well as my write up when John Curtis and I had the pleasure to visit the Master Craft Plant (furniture makers) and see these woods being produced, in the information section page L."

Now the information section on broom stock woods (which are normally only 25mm compare to common round woods which are 38mm) in Norm's book runs 4 pages long listing stubbies for 26 municipalities, some multiple varieties and years. Some highlights:

Mrs. M. Neu worked on the first issues in 1954 and since then (i.e. as of 1979) has produced most of the issues done at Master Craft. In 1979 she was retired but occasionally helps out on a part-time basis. For example in 1979 as a part-timer, she was working on a 20,000 re-issue of the 1954 Canadian Gateway to Thousand Islands for Gananoque. She says in 1967 to 1975 she had to do a larger size "1.5 inch wooden quarters" in addition to the broom stock, to fill the request of the Maple Syrup Festival. Master Craft still uses the original dies, and Norm was given several examples when he was there. In 1967 for Canada's Centennial they made 1.75 inch "jumbo dollars" for a group of Kitchener citizens. Bob Thiessen who was President of Master Craft in 1979 was on the tour with Norm, and there is a picture of them together, along with a picture of Mrs. Neu striking the woods at a rate of 1,000 per hour, then she using the stamping machine, and there is a picture of the wooden money work area showing the broom stock machine on the left. The stubbies were done in both natural state and varnished state.

There are 5-6 steps (depending if varnished or natural) in making the stubbies and they are described in the book. It starts with one inch diameter maple dowling in 4-foot lengths. These lengths are hand-fed and cut (bench saw and jig). The blanks then go into a tumbler to ready them for stamping.

Two STEEL dies are required which are inserted into a vertical (commercial hot-press) stamping machine. The obverse die is the upper or moving part, and the reverse die is fastened on the flat or table of the machine..... etc etc — some of the woods have silk screening and spraying too.

Pictured is courtesy of Colonial Acres Coins of 16 broom stock woods all trade dollars: 1968 + 1971 + 1972 Elmira, 1958 Collingwood, 1968 Seaforth, 1954 Kitchener, 1967 Centennial, 1955 London, Gananoque, Royal Visit Queen Elizabeth, 1957 Waterloo, 1979 Conestoga, 1954 Hamilton, Niagara Falls, St. Lawrence Seaway Opening, and Grantham Township.





**Website:**  
<http://www.nunet.ca/>

**Editor:**  
 Judy Blackman, F.O.N.A.

**E-mail:**  
[jblackman@rogers.com](mailto:jblackman@rogers.com)

**Assistant Editor:**  
 Norm Belsten, LM C45

**E-mail:**  
[nbelsten@sympatico.ca](mailto:nbelsten@sympatico.ca)

**Phone:**  
 (905) 868-9187

**Timber Talk**  
 awarded in July  
 2012, R.C.N.A. **Best  
 Regional / National  
 Newsletter.** Thank  
 you to all who  
 contribute to  
 making TT the  
 success it is!



CAWMC is a member of  
**RCNA** and the **SOC** of  
 CAWMC is a member of  
 the **ONA**



## John Likely's Legacy Today!

Jim Smith operates [Woodencoin.com](http://Woodencoin.com) in Likely (B.C.) making wooden coins of Beetle Kill Pine and Fir. He recently sent me these 4 varieties of a wood commemorating "1842—John Likely—1929". Jim recently replaced old equipment with new, and says he's been having challenges with the new, causing him "grief" but looking at these woods, they look pretty good!



Cameron ridge left, downtown Likely right

Jim says, "John Likely is the namesake of my small town. Famous for a big gold strike in what is considered the later years of the gold rush (1922?), a couple of miles from Likely at Cedar Dam or Cedar City. Known also as Plato John for his resuscitation of the teachings of Plato passed to other miners. The Town of Likely has just recently declared a small grove of trees as the site where he may have presented the readings on the edge of the now poisoned Quesnel Lake in Cedar Point Park. These 40mm woods were made to commemorate this declaration." I don't have an exact quantity, but probably 250-500 was probably made — all with the common obverse and various reverses.





The Bullion Pit is located 97km east of Williams Lake and 5km west of Likely. The Bullion was one of the largest placer gold mines in the world, measuring 1500 by 450 by 125 metres. In 1859, Thomas “Dancing Bill” Lather discovered gold at the mouth of what is now referred to as “Dancing Bill Gulch.” It was reported that Thomas was returning \$110 (189.2 grams) per ay of gold in a small hand-rocker from a gravel bar at the confluence of the creek and the Quesnel river. Eventually, heavy overburden was encountered and other miners took over the area and re-worked a larger areas for the next 18 years. This site became known as the “China Pit”. In 1897 the Consolidated Hydraulic Mining Company commenced full scale operations — but over the years they were continually hindered by a water shortage. Various owners came and went until 1933, Bullion Placers Limited acquired the property and operations putting in large monitors and rehabilitated water systems. Estimations indicate that a total of 200 million tonnes of material were removed by hydraulic methods and 5.463 million grams (175,644 ounces) of gold were produced.

One of the few remaining Cariboo Gold Rush settlements, Like is situated where the west arm of the Quesnel Lake empties into the Quesnel River, near the southern end of the Matthew River Road leading to Barkerville. Quesnel Lake is the largest lake in the Cariboo, with more than 500km of scenic shoreline, and host over 1,000 visitors annually. One spot in the lake is over 610 metres deep. Likely at the west end of the lake, was originally called Quesnel Dam. The name was changed in 1923 to honour prospector John A. Likely of the Bullion Pit Mine, who was affectionately called “Plato” for his tendency to philosophize.

In 1898 the Quesnel River was dammed nearly Likely to enable down river areas to be explored for gold. During the last week of October in 1922, more than 697 ounces of gold were recovered at the Cedar Creek Mine. In 1935 the Bullion Pit became the site of the largest hydraulic monitors ever installed in North America. It operated from 1892 to 1942, constructing over 64km of canals to draw water from nearby lakes and creeks to feed the hydraulic nozzles.

In fact, Morehead Lake was created to supply water to the Bullion mine. Today, the Bullion Pit stands as an astonishing man-made canyon which can be viewed from the trail above. Just over the hill from Likely is the ghost town of Quesnel Forks. At one time, one of B.C. largest communities, now a collection of historic buildings where the Cariboo and Quesnel rivers meet. A lovely setting for a picnic in a spot where time stands still.

Likely normally has about 300 residents and this can double during the summer months. Folks visit Likely in late August and watch thousands of salmon migrate up the Quesnel River to their spawning grounds in the Horsefly and Mitchell rivers. Folks also visit Cedar Point Park, an impressive stand of yellow cedar on the shores of Quesnel Lake. Once a rendezvous for the Hudson’s Bay fur brigade in the 1850’s, Cedar Point is now a park and campground.

How the Mount Polley Mine ‘biggest dam break’ will impact the future this area, is yet to be seen — another mine disaster Likely has endured. This environmental disaster in the Cariboo region that began on 4 August 2014 with a breach of the Imperial Metals—owned Mount Polley copper and gold mine tailings pond, releasing its water and slurry with years worth of mining waste into Polley Lake. The spill flooded Polley Lake, its outflow Hazeltine Creek, and continued into nearby Quesnel Lake and Cariboo Creek. By 8 August the 4 sq. kms sized tailings pond was empty. Water tests showed elevated levels of selenium, arsenic and other metals similar to historical tests before the disaster. The cause of the dam break has been investigated with a final report published 31 January 2015. Imperial Metals had a history of operating the pond beyond capacity since at least 2011. The spill has been called one of the biggest environmental disasters in modern Canadian history, while B.C.’s gov’t. has insisted the dam failure is not an environmental disaster.

Each disaster over the years, causes a further reduction in the town’s population as folks relocate.

### Mount Polley mine disaster



July 24, 2014



August 5, 2014

NASA aerial photos of the Mount Polley Mine site before and after the dam breach

Date 4 August 2014

Location Quesnel Lake, British Columbia, Canada





## Appointed Officers

**Editor:** Judy Blackman,  
F.O.N.A.  
**E-Mail:**  
jblackman@rogers.com

**Assistant Editor:**  
Norm Belsten

**Distribution:**  
Ross Kingdon

**Fund Raiser:**  
Lou Vesh & Dave Gillespie

**Auction Co-ordinator and  
Membership Dues:**  
Al Munro

**Annual Membership Dues  
in Canadian Association  
of Wooden Money  
Collectors are:**

- **Canadian Residents:**  
\$10, Cdn. Funds
- **Youth (16 years old  
and under) \$5 Cdn.  
Funds**
- **U.S. A. Residents:**  
\$10 U.S. Funds
- **International  
Members Rate  
(outside Cda. –  
U.S.A.): \$20 Cdn.  
Funds**

## Dues paid to:

Mr. Al Munro, P.O. Box  
2643, Station M, Calgary,  
Alberta, T2P 3C1, Canada



## The End of an Era by Al Munro

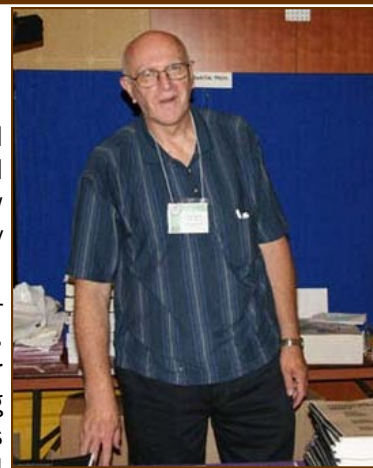
This patch and wood recently sold for just over \$50 U.S. They both commemorate the closing of the Toronto Don Jail in 2013. The jail ends an Era started in 1865, the "toughest beat to walk".

The Don Jail located to the east of the Don River, on Gerrard Street East in the Riverdale neighbourhood (Toronto), was completed in 1864 (began operating the following year). It was recently renovated to serve as the administrative wing of Bridgeport Health, a rehabilitation hospital located adjacent to the jail. Prior to its adaptive reuse as part of a healthcare facility, the building was used as a provincial jail for remanded officers and was officially known as the Toronto Jail. We have no information on how many were made, and how they were distributed.



## Glad You're Back John!

After first battling and recovering from a major medical condition, **John Regitko** then began sorting through and packing up his and **Monina's** stuff for a move to a new home, this was followed by **John** battling a bad lengthy cold. Next he visited Ohio for a number of weeks, and from there he was off to Europe with **Monina** taking an 8-day boat cruise up the Rhine from Amsterdam to Basil, Switzerland, then renting a car to see his Aunt, a former Vice-President of the Royal Canadian Mint now working for the Olympic Organization in Luzern, and his cousins and his old classmates from the 1950s in Germany, and more.



During the trip, he also worked on re-organizing his Errors & Varieties Seminar for the approximate 30-35 students attending John's seminar on June 20, 2015 at Colonial Acres Coins.

He's now also working on some more articles for the *Timber Talk*, while still packing up for the move.

We're glad you have your 'sea legs' back **John**, along with your terrific sense of humour, and look forward to seeing you out at club meetings and shows later this summer!